UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,820	02/10/2004	David Paul Yach	PUS1431 (1578.107)	8193

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EXAMINER
SHARMA, SUJATHA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2618	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/775,820	YACH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sujatha Sharma	2618	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 February 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9|3|04

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20061122

. *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

1.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2.   Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification,

while being enabling for method of transferring packets with tag-length format for

synchronization of data bases, does not reasonably provide enablement for said <u>tag-length format</u>

<u>into which said converter converts the normalized mapped values is free of null-terminated</u>

<u>values</u>. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or

with which it is most nearly connected, to understand the invention commensurate in scope with

these claims.

The method wherein the said <u>tag-length format into which said converter converts the</u>

<u>normalized mapped values is free of null-terminated values</u> is not defined in the specification so

as to enable a person with ordinary skill in the art to which it pertains to understand this

particular feature in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 1-9, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chase [US

5,974,238].

Regarding claim 1, Chase discloses a method of automatic synchronization between a handheld

device and a host computer. Chase further discloses a radio communication system having

- a network part at which a network-copy database is maintained and a mobile node at

     which a mobile-copy database is maintained. See col. 3, lines 29-34

an improvement of apparatus for facilitating synchronization of data stored at the network-copy

database, said apparatus comprising:

- a mapper embodied at the network part, said mapper selectably operable to form a map

     between fields of a data record of a network-copy database, the network-copy database

     having a network-copy schema and fields of a corresponding data record of the mobile-

     copy database, the mobile-copy database having a mobile schema; see col. 12, line 65 –

     col. 13, line 30

- the map indexing together the fields of the data record of the network-database with the

     fields of the corresponding data record of the mobile-copy database, see col. 12, line 65 –

     col. 13, line 30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and 62-67

- said mapper forming the map upon detection of change to the data record of the network-

     copy database. See col. 3, lines 38-52 where the modification to the data records in the

     handheld or the host computer is detected and the synchronization of the records start.

     Also the checksum acts as the detector detecting any changes in the data records. See col.

     13, lines 5-17

Regarding claim 2, Chase further discloses a method comprising a detector embodied at the

network part, coupled to the network-part database, and to said mapper, said detector for

detecting the change to the data record of the network-copy database and for providing an

indication of the change to said mapper. See col.3, lines 38-52, col. 9, line 67 – col. 10, line 7,

see col. 12, line 65 – col. 13, line 30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and 62-67. Here any modification to the

data record in the hand held or the host computer is detected and the synchronization module is

operative to automatically synchronize the data records.

Regarding claim 3, Chase further discloses a method comprising a synchronization request

generator embodied at the network part and coupled to said mapper, said synchronization request

generator for generating a network-initiated synchronization request responsive to formation of

the map by said mapper. See col. 12, lines 24 – 33 where there is a request generated for the data

synchronization.

Regarding claim 4, Chase further discloses a method wherein the synchronization request

formed by said synchronization request generator comprises indicia associated with the map

generated by said mapper. See col. 12, line 65 – col. 13, line 30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and 62-67

Regarding claim 5, Chase further discloses a method wherein the synchronization request

formed by said synchronization request generator further comprises indicia associated with the

data record of which change thereto is detected. See col. 3, lines 38-52 where the modification to

the data records in the handheld or the host computer is detected and the synchronization of the

records start.

Regarding claim 6, Chase further discloses a method wherein the indicia associated with the

data record and of which the synchronization request is further comprised comprises values of

the data record. See col. 9, line 65 – col. 10, line 7, col. 10, lines 66,67

Regarding claim 7, Chase further discloses a method wherein the data record is formed of a

first field and at least a second field and wherein the values of the data record comprised in the

synchronization request formed by said synchronization request generator comprises values

populating at least one of the first and at least second fields, respectively. See col. 13, lines 18-

30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and lines 62-67. Here for example the address consists of the name as the

first field and city as the second field.

Regarding claim 8, Chase further discloses a method wherein the values of the data record

comprised in the synchronization request comprise values populating each of the first and at least

second fields. See col. 13, lines 18-30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and lines 62-67. Here for example the

address consists of the name as the first field and city as the second field.

Regarding claim 9, Chase further discloses a method wherein the fields of the data record of

the network-copy database and mapped by said mapper are of a first number, wherein the fields

of the corresponding data record of the mobile-copy database and mapped by said mapper are

of a second number, the first number dissimilar with the second number. See col. 13, lines 5-17

where the check sum / first number of the network-copy database is different from the check

sum/second number of the mobile-copy database.

Regarding claim 15, Chase further discloses a method of communicating in a radio

communication system having a network part at which a network-copy database is maintained

and a mobile node at which a mobile copy database is maintained (see col. 3, lines 29-34)

an improvement of a method for facilitating synchronization of data stored at the network copy

database with data stored at the mobile copy database, said method comprising:

- detecting a change to a data record of the network copy database; See col. 3, lines 38-52

    where the modification to the data records in the handheld or the host computer is

    detected and the synchronization of the records start. Also the checksum acts as the

    detector detecting any changes in the data records. See col. 13, lines 5-17

- forming a map between fields of the data record of the network copy database having a

    network schema and fields of a corresponding data record of the mobile copy database,

    the mobile copy database having a mobile copy schema; see col. 12, line 65 – col. 13,

    line 30

- the map indexing together the fields of the data record of the network copy database with

    the fields of the corresponding data record of the mobile copy database. see col. 12, line

    65 – col. 13, line 30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and 62-67

Regarding claim 16, Chase further discloses a method comprising the operation of generating

a network initiated synchronization request responsive to formation of the map formed during

said operation of forming. See col. 12, lines 24 – 33 where there is a request generated for the

data synchronization.

Regarding claim 17, Chase further discloses a method wherein the synchronization request

generated during said operation of generating comprises indicia associated with the map formed

during said operation of forming. See col. 12, line 65 – col. 13, line 30, col. 14, lines 1-10 and

62-67

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 10-12, 14, 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Chase [US 5,974,238] in view of Yianilos [US 2002/0029214].

Regarding claim 10, Chase discloses all the limitations as claimed but fails to disclose a

method comprising a filter embodied at the network part and adapted to receive the

synchronization request formed by said synchronization request generator, said filter for filtering

from the synchronization request map portions in which a field of the data record of the network-

copy database fails to have a corresponding field of the corresponding data record of the mobile-copy database, the synchronization request, once filtered, comprising normalized map values.

Yianilos, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a method where the data to be synchronized is filtered and only those data records that are missing on the other side (i.e. a field of the data record of the network-copy database fails to have a corresponding field of the corresponding data record of the mobile- copy database) are transferred to achieve synchronization thus avoiding unnecessary transfer of large amounts of data. See page 5, paragraph 67.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Yianilos to Chase in order to avoid unnecessary transfer of large amounts of data and thus efficiently use the available resources.

Regarding claim 11, Chase further discloses a method comprising a converter embodied at the network part and coupled to said filter to receive the normalized mapped values formed thereat, said converter for converting the normalized mapped values into a radio air format, for communication to the mobile node pursuant to the synchronization of the data. See col. 3, lines 46-52 and col. 6, lines 16-45 where the data synchronization occur using wireless communication transports

Regarding claim 12, Chase further discloses a method wherein the radio air format into which said converter converts the normalized mapped values comprises a tag-length format. See col. 13, lines 50-52, col. 14, lines 52-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12 wherein the tag

length is defined so that the packet can be transmitted using current wireless communication transports

Regarding claim 14, Yianilos further discloses a method wherein said filter further filters map portions in which a field of the data record of the network copy database is absent a change. See col. 5, paragraph 67.

Regarding claim 18, Yianilos further discloses a method comprising the operation of filtering, from the synchronization request, selected map portions thereof to form normalized mapped values. See page 5, paragraph 67.

Regarding claim 19, Yianilos further discloses a method comprising the operation of converting the normalized mapped values into a radio air format. See col. 3, lines 46-52 and col. 6, lines 16-45 where the data synchronization occur using wireless communication transports

Regarding claim 20, Yianilos further discloses a method comprising the operation of sending selected normalized mapped values, once converted into the radio air format, to the mobile node pursuant to the synchronization therewith. See col. 3, lines 46-52 and col. 6, lines 16-45 where the data packets are transmitted and synchronization occurs using wireless communication transports.

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 13 is directed towards the method wherein <u>the tag-length format into which said converter converts the normalized mapped values is free of null-terminated values</u>.

The prior art references individually or in combination do not disclose the above underlined unique feature.

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ulrich [US 6,052,735]   Electronic mail object synchronization between a desk top computer and mobile device

Wu [US 7,127,509]   System and method for synchronizing objects between two devices

Boothby [US 7,013,315]   Synchronization of databases with record sanitizing and intelligent comparison

Ahlgren [US 6,968,209]   Method and apparatus for synchronizing databases in portable communication devices

Champagne [US 6,925,477]   Transferring records between two databases

Lunsford [US 6,901,434]   Synchronization of data between two handheld computers

LaRue [US 6,810,405]   System and methods for synchronizing data between multiple data

sets

Hawkins [US 6,728,786]   Method and apparatus for synchronizing a portable computer

system with a desktop computer system

Beyda [US 6,829,622]   Apparatus and method for mobile device synchronization

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Sujatha Sharma whose telephone number is 571-272-7886. The

examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on 571-272-4177. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sujatha Sharma
November 24, 2006